

Alumni Columns

SPRING 2015

Northwestern State University Magazine

Mrs. H.D. Dear Sr. and Alice E. Dear
School of Creative and Performing Arts
HALL OF FAME



HONORING
THE CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS



Dr. Grady Harper



Jim Bob Key



Dr. Jack Wann





*Dr. Jim Henderson
1994
President
Northwestern State
University*

Dear Alumni,

After a few weeks as president of Northwestern State University, I am even prouder to be an alumnus of this outstanding institution.

All of us as alumni can play an important role in making Northwestern the premier regional university in Louisiana and the nation. We have the history, traditions, programs and personnel to make that goal a reality.

At the heart of our plan to move Northwestern to a place of greater prominence and prestige is a strong, active and supportive alumni base.

We will visit you in the months ahead to request your assistance for exciting initiatives to raise our alma mater to new heights. You may recently have received via e-mail a survey that will help us take steps to enhance the value of the education you received from Northwestern. In case you missed it, that survey is printed on page 17 of this magazine.

Please plan to join us as we intensify the relationship between Northwestern and its alumni to help assure that the brightest days for our school and its current, future and former students are yet to come.

Thank you for everything you do to support Northwestern. You can e-mail me at jhenderson@nsula.edu or follow me on Twitter @DrJBHenderson.



*Dr. Chris Maggio,
1985, 1991
Assistant Vice
President of External
Affairs for University
Advancement*

My fellow alumni,

2015 began with a bang and a current of energy has spread throughout the entire NSU campus. We began the semester with an infectious sense of renewal that has continued to grow as we set forth with strategies to make Northwestern State University the best university in the region.

As I write this, we are in the final planning stages of a very special spring event, the Presidential Investiture and the President's Command Performance, a day of activities to formally welcome our new president and honor three outstanding alumni. You can read more about these events on pages 1-3.

I again would like to remind you about our social media sites that make it easier than ever to stay engaged with everything that is happening at Northwestern State, from student life to Creative and Performing Arts, athletic events and alumni programs.

If you know of a high schooler looking at colleges or a non-traditional student seeking to start or finish a degree, please have them contact our recruiting office. We would love to share what we have to offer. As always, thank you for all you do to support Northwestern State.

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1st Vice President Monty Chicola, Natchitoches, 1979, 1980
2nd Vice President Dr. P. Cade Brumley, Stonewall, 2002
Treasurer Matt Bailey, New Orleans, 2003
Secretary Caron Chester Coleman, Natchitoches, 2000

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Associate Director of
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Tommy Chester Natchitoches, 1969
Leonard Endris Shreveport, 1974, 1975
Allen Evans Shreveport, 1989
John Evans Natchitoches, 1992
Michael Gallien Houston, 1981
Dr. Hayward Hargrove Black Mountain, N.C., 1964
Trey Hill Carencro, 1985
Patricia Hrapmann New Orleans, 1973, 1978
Carlos Jones Round Rock, Texas, 1993
Gail Jones Natchez, 1981, 1998
Matt Koury Leesville, 1995
Bryant Lewis Haynesville, 1958
Carroll Long Natchitoches, 1967, 1970
W. Lane Luckie Tyler, Texas, 2008
Dr. Lisa Landry Mathews Shreveport, 1992
Kip Patrick Washington, DC, 1995
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Marti Vienne Natchitoches, 1982
Ricky Walmsley Rogers, AR, 1985
Mike Wilburn Shreveport, 1975
Dr. Leonard Williams New Orleans, 1993

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Garrett Pierce Nevada, Texas, SGA President

Publisher Dr. Chris Maggio, 1985, 1991
Editor Leah Pilcher Jackson, 1994, 2011
Contributors David West
Doug Ireland, 1986
Cole Gentry, 2008
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Presidential Investiture marks new era at Northwestern State

Dr. James Braswell Henderson will be formally invested as Northwestern State University's 18th president during ceremonies planned for Friday, March 27.

Events will begin with an Investiture Mass at the Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception at 9 a.m., followed by investiture ceremonies at 11 a.m. in A.A. Fredericks Auditorium on the NSU campus. Seating for both events is limited. Overflow for the 11 a.m. ceremonies will be seated in nearby Magale Recital Hall where investiture ceremonies will be streamed live for the audience.

Dr. Sandra Woodley, president of the University of Louisiana System, will perform the investiture. Dignitaries of elected office, religious affiliation and the realm of academia will participate, along with media executive and Northwestern State alumnus Greg Ashlock, who will be guest speaker.

Following the ceremony, a community reception will take place from 2-4 p.m. at the Arnold R. Kilpatrick President's Residence. Admittance to investiture events is free and open to the public. For more information on the investiture, visit nsula.edu/henderson.

Events surrounding the Presidential Investiture on March 27 will precede the second annual President's Command Performance, a ticketed event that will begin at 6 p.m. Information on the President's Command Performance can be found on Pages 2-3.

Henderson assumed office as Northwestern State University president on Jan. 1. He was unanimously elected Northwestern State's 18th president in September 2014, succeeding Dr. Randall J. Webb's 18-year administration.

Henderson and his wife, the former Tonia Istre, are both graduates of Northwestern State. The Hendersons have three children, Reagan, Nicholas and Alexander.

Prior to his appointment at NSU, Henderson was chancellor at Bossier Parish Community College for five years, where he oversaw enrollment growth of more than 84 percent and increased annual certificate and degree completions by 90 percent. From 2011-13, BPCC was among the five fast-growing community colleges in the nation. Henderson was senior vice president, workforce and economic development/career and

technical education for the Louisiana Community and Technical College System from 2005-2009. He served as appointing authority and chief executive officer of the LCTCS comprised of eight regional technical colleges serving more than 26,000 students. Under his leadership, the statewide technical college system with 42 individually accredited campuses was transitioned into eight regionally accredited technical colleges. During Henderson's tenure with LCTCS, enrollment grew by 98 percent and he helped obtain more than \$65 million in grants, appropriations and private funding to enhance workforce development.

From 2001-2005, Henderson was director of administration and director of workforce development for the Louisiana Department of Labor. Prior to that, he worked in the private sector for 10 years in hotel management.

Henderson earned his undergraduate degree in journalism at NSU in 1994, his master's in administration from the University of West Florida and a Doctor of Management from the University of Maryland-University College.

Mrs. Henderson earned a degree in journalism at NSU in 1993.

Ashlock is executive vice president of operations for Clear Channel Media + Entertainment (CCM+E) USA and president of Clear Channel Southern California, where he is responsible for 500 employees in Los Angeles, the number one radio market in the U.S. Ashlock manages eight radio stations and is responsible for talent management, ratings growth, revenue and expense controls, public affairs, FCC compliance, legal affairs and marketing/promotions.

Ashlock earned an undergraduate degree in journalism at Northwestern State in 1991 and a master's from the University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication. He is married and has five children.

For more information on the investiture, visit nsula.edu/henderson.





President's Command Performance, a celebration of the arts, will honor new president while inducting three into CAPA Hall of Fame

Northwestern State University will host the second annual President's Command Performance, a spring gala to celebrate the arts, Friday, March 27 in conjunction with investiture ceremonies for NSU President Dr. James Henderson. The President's Command Performance will showcase the talents of students and faculty in the Mrs. H.D. Dear Sr. and Alice Estelle Dear School of Creative and Performing Arts and will include the induction of three individuals into the CAPA Hall of Fame.

The President's Command Performance will begin with music, cocktails and dinner at 6 p.m. in the Alumni Plaza in tandem with a silent auction and a retrospective exhibit of artwork by Dr. Grady Harper entitled "Grady Harper: Vision" in the Orville Hanchey Gallery. The main performances, featuring musical ensembles, vocalists and dance performances, will take place in A.A. Fredericks Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Individual tickets are \$65 per person and \$125 per couple in advance or can be purchased at the event for \$75 per person and \$150 per couple.

Inductees into the CAPA Hall of Fame are Harper, a former member the art faculty; arts patron Jim Bob Key and Dr. Jack Wann, former NSU artistic director and professor of theatre.

Dr. Grady Harper



Harper, a popular art educator, believed that anyone can learn if taught in the manner they need.

Although style and subject have matured and developed through the years, most watercolor and coffee paintings are of local landscape, still-life, floral scenes and historical sites. He took art to the community with adjunct workshops, exhibits, demonstrations and international art study abroad programs open to students and the community.

During his career, Harper exhibited art in numerous galleries in the southern United States and in private collections nationwide and was recognized with many awards and accolades. He was admitted to numerous juried exhibits and art shows, often receiving awards or acknowledgements for work submitted. He served on the editorial board for Louisiana Life magazine from 1981-85 and authored many published works on painting techniques and art education.

Harper has been married to Sidney O. Harper for 62 years. They have a daughter, Becky Monroe of Lafayette, and three grandchildren, NSU students Brandon and Avery Monroe and Aaron Monroe.

Harper was a professor of art at Northwestern State from 1969-1990 where he served as chairman of the art department for three years, before serving as director of Northwestern Abroad, the university's student international travel program. Harper enjoyed a long, successful and influential career as an educator and visual artist. A native of Pineville, he earned a bachelor's degree in art from Louisiana College, a master's in art education at NSU, a master's of fine arts at Stephen F. Austin University and a Ph.D. from Louisiana State University. He taught art at the junior high level beginning in 1955 and at the college level from 1959 until his retirement.

Harper is a specialist in watercolor and oil paintings and most recently adapted a technique of painting with coffee.

Jim Bob Key

A native of Winnfield, Key graduated from Northwestern State University with a Bachelor of Arts in art and interior design in 1954. While at NSU, he played percussion in the band and timpani in the symphony. Key was also a member of the Gamma Rho Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Symphonica.

Key married Betty Sue Choate (1954) in 1955 and served in the U.S. Navy from 1955 to 1957. After returning from his station in the U.S. Navy, Key went to work with his father-in-law, L.J. Choate, at Choate's Interiors on July 1, 1957. He purchased the business in 1960.

In 1966, Key assisted in founding the Natchitoches Northwestern Symphony, where he is a past president and has served on the board for the past 49 years. Additionally, he was on the National Council of the Metropolitan Opera and served on the Regional Boards of the Shreveport Symphony and Shreveport Opera. Key served as a member of the Louisiana State Arts Council, which started the Louisiana Outdoor Drama Association (LODA) amphitheater in Grand Ecore.

Coupled with his involvement in music and arts, Key is a past president of the Natchitoches Rotary Club, served on the State Board of the Louisiana Mental Health Association, and was a member of the Natchitoches Historic Foundation.

Key has three daughters, Pamela Key DeBlieux (1979), Susan Key Grayson (1981) and Patricia Key Repp (1987). He has eight grandchildren and is also the proud great-grandfather to three.



Above: Jim Bob Key, right, is pictured with Eugenie Watson-Chopin and Dawie Couzyn at a fund raiser for the Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony. Photo below: Jim Bob Key is pictured with Bunny Currey in a production of "Kismet."



Dr. Jack Wann



Wann continues to teach theatre classes, annually leading workshops at Northwestern.

Wann was a member of Northwestern State's faculty from 1990-2003, building one of the top undergraduate theatre programs in the South. Under Wann, Northwestern gained accreditation from the National Association of Schools in Theatre. Many of his students worked in summer stock companies each summer and many work professionally today.

Wann established the NSU Summer Dinner Theatre and regularly brought working professionals to Natchitoches to hold workshops for students. His 2002 published book, "Shakesperience! An Approach to Performing Shakespeare," won NSU's Dr. Mildred Hart Bailey Research Award.

Wann was named professor emeritus after his retirement and has maintained close ties to the university, returning to campus annually to teach theatre classes. In 2012, the former Loft Theater on the third floor of A.A. Fredericks Center for Creative and Performing Arts was renovated as a state of the art acting and movement theatre and renamed the Jack Wann Theatre.



Kappa Sigma will hold 2016 50th anniversary

The Northwestern State University chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity will mark its 50th anniversary April 9, 2016. The chapter was chartered April 16, 1966, as Theta Mu chapter and has more than 700 alumni members. Information on the anniversary celebration will be available as plans are finalized.

Golden Jubilee for Class of 1965 is May 8

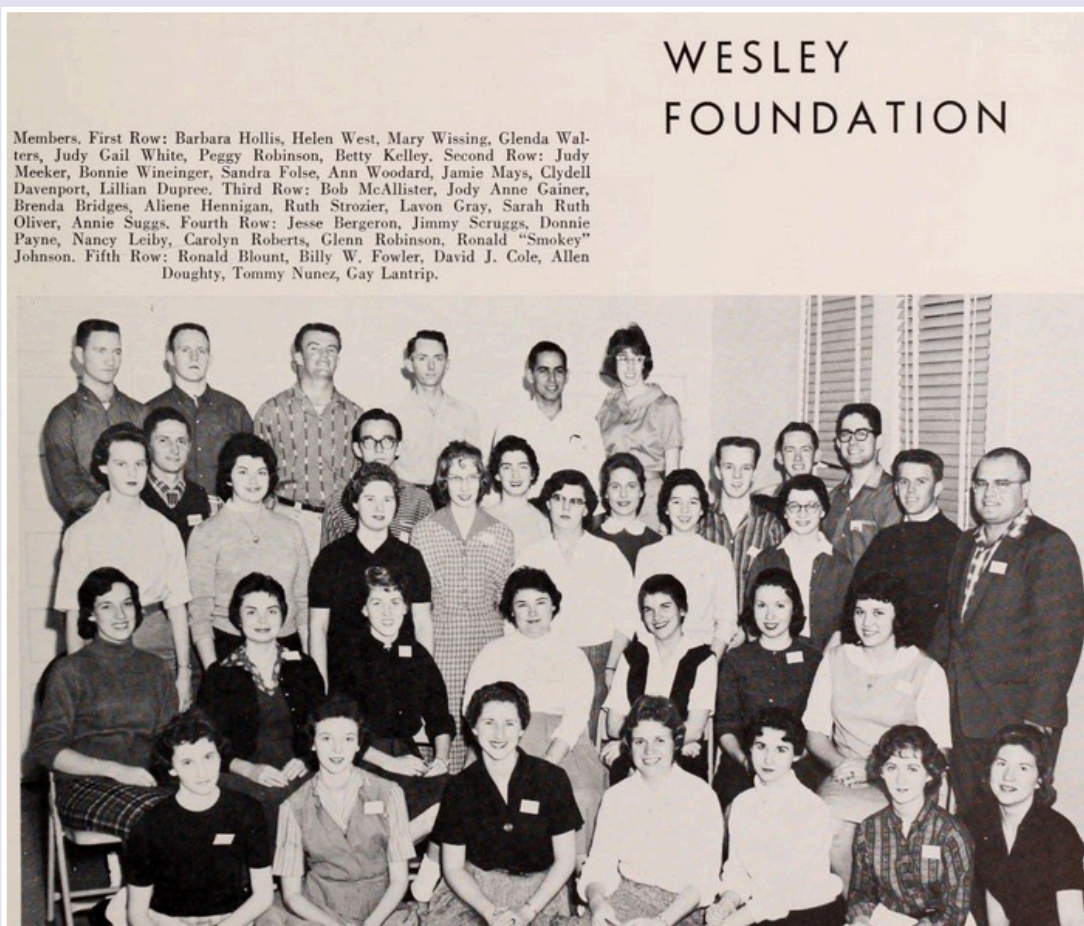
The 2015 Golden Jubilee honoring Northwestern State graduates from the class of 1965 will be held May 8-9 in Natchitoches, in conjunction with spring commencement.

Beginning at 10:30 a.m. Friday, May 8, participants will be treated to a brunch and bus tour of campus prior to participating in 3 p.m. commencement exercises in Prather Coliseum in which they will receive their second diploma. The afternoon will be followed by a cocktail reception and dinner in Varnado Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Events on Saturday, May 9 include the annual 50-plus lunch in the Student Union Ballroom beginning at 11:30 a.m.

To register online visit northwesternalumni.com/1965 or contact Vanner Erikson at (318) 357-4415 or eriksonv@nsula.edu.

Wesley Foundation gathering set for May 1-2



The Wesley Foundation will hold a gathering in Shreveport May 1-2 for former members. For more information, contact Glenda Walters Marshman, rmarshman@uwf.edu, (850) 434-6368; Allen Doughty, adoughty_sport1@comcast.net, (318) 865-2915 (H) or (318) 470-0950, or Smokey Johnson, mjohnson57@suddenlink.net, (318) 742-4199. Pictured above is a Potpourri yearbook photo from 1960.

Northwestern State Foundation announces new president, board members



Dunahoe

Zulick



Pease

Conine

Richard Zulick (1993) has been named president of the Northwestern State University Foundation board of directors, succeeding Lola Dunahoe (1971), who completed a three-year term. Northwestern State Dean of Students Frances Conine and alumna Barbara Jo Pease (1973) have been appointed new members. The Foundation was established as a non-profit organization whose mission is to serve the University, its students and its faculty, primarily through financial resources raised and distributed by the corporation. The primary objectives of the Foundation are to promote the educational and cultural welfare of Northwestern State, to aid any student in continuing his or her studies at the University, to solicit and accept funds of all kinds for the purpose of providing scholarships and activities in research or other benefits for the University, its faculty and students and to exercise all powers and authority for the accomplishments of the objectives and purpose of the corporation.

Nursing Graduate



NSU's Director of Recruiting Jana Lucky got acquainted with a fellow NSU alumna at the Women for Christ Christmas party in Shreveport. Rosa Godwin Simmons was in the first class of graduates from the nursing program in 1954. Last year, the nursing program commemorated its 65th anniversary.

Sponsorships are available for annual Legends dinner in Shreveport

NSU supporters and friends are invited to the fourth annual Legends Dinner and Golf Scramble presented by the Demons Unlimited Foundation in Shreveport-Bossier City on May 3-4.

The Sunday, May 3 Legends Dinner will again be hosted by the Horseshoe Hotel and Casino in the Riverdome room. The Monday, May 4 Legends Golf Scramble will be played at the newly-renovated Huntington Park Golf Course in Shreveport. The identities of the 2015 Legends, outstanding figures in NSU athletic history, will be announced on the NSUDemons.com website, said DUF executive director Adam Jonson.

The Legends Dinner begins at 5 p.m. with a VIP access cocktail hour, and the Riverdome opens at 6 p.m. with a silent auction beginning then. The Legends Lineup will be stated at 6:45 p.m., recognizing former recipients of the Legends recognition who are attending. Dinner will be served just before 7 p.m. with the program beginning at 7:15 p.m., featuring the Legends Panel discussion at 7:30 p.m. A VIP access postgame party will begin about 9 p.m.

Monday's golf tournament begins at 8 a.m. with breakfast and check in at Huntington Park. A shotgun start opens the tournament at 9 a.m. with a lunch and awards ceremony following play.

Sponsorship opportunities including Legends Dinner reserved tables, VIP Legends Event access, Legends Golf foursomes and recognition in event program begin at \$1,000. Reserved tables for the Sunday night event are available for \$400 (include VIP access) and golf foursomes are \$600. Individual tickets for the Legends Dinner are \$50 and individual tickets with VIP access are \$75.

Last year's Legends were Gordon Boogaerts, Bobby Hebert, Kevin Lewis and Ed Orgeron.

For more information, contact Jonson or Haley Blount at the NSU Athletic Department by calling (318) 357-5251.

Dwayne Jones impacting lives through Special Olympics



Jones is coordinator of special events held in conjunction with this summer's games in Los Angeles.

Dwayne Jones is putting his organizational skills and talents in event planning to work and changing attitudes about people with intellectual disabilities. As vice president of special events and entertainment for the Special Olympic World Games, set to be held in Los Angeles this summer, Jones sees first-hand how events he helps facilitate impact the athletes and their families.

"We have a number of current Special Olympics athletes who have been trained to serve as Global Messengers for this summer's World Games," Jones said. "They make appearances, speak to organizations and have even been to the White House to represent the World Games. These Global Messengers are an integral part of every event that I help to plan because their actions, words and experience have a greater impact on someone attending these events than anything that I bring to the table. My job, when you really break it down, is to set the stage for them and to let them shine... and boy, do they shine."

Jones, a native of Jena, earned a bachelor's degree in advertising design in 1996 and joined the international headquarters of Theta Chi Fraternity as leadership and education consultant for the northeast and midwest regions. He later was director of chapter operations and worked with the Leadership Education Committee plan-

ning the fraternity's leadership events, conventions and chapter leadership conferences and gaining invaluable experience in event management.

Jones moved to Los Angeles in 2000 and has worked in the special events industry with Universal Studios, the Los Angeles Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Academy of Country Music, Hollywood and Highland Center and Kodak Theatre. He also worked for Jet Set Sports, an Official Olympic Hospitality Provider, for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. Since then, he has worked every Olympics – eight total, the 2014 World Cup Program in Brazil, and hospitality programs for the US Open, The Masters, the Paralympics, the Youth Olympic Games and the 2011 Special Olympics World Games in Athens, Greece, before his current job.

"I have been really fortunate with the experiences that my career path has provided," he said. "I certainly wouldn't have imagined myself -- a small town Louisiana boy who had no interest, whatsoever, in sports -- being a part of eight Olympic Games and a World Cup, arguably, the most iconic global sporting events in existence. The irony certainly wasn't lost on my friends and family, but it did provide for some laughable moments when my description of the experiences revolved much more around my excitement at the Opening and Closing Ceremonies than the actual sporting competitions."

Jones was always fascinated with the entertainment industry and is a self-described television and movie junkie. Living and working in the Los Angeles special events industry is a great fit for him and has provided some memorable experiences, coordinating Universal Studios Hollywood premieres and international celebrity destination weddings.

"While the entertainment and global sporting events evoke this glamorous image when I'm describing what I do to people, the reality is that I'm schlepping and running around into all hours of the night trying to get everything ready in the same way that I would for a business conference or meeting," Jones said. "At the end of the day, it is just one big function that, like any event, has a big list of details that need to be checked off for everything to come together and operate successfully."

His goal with this summer's World Games is to make the Special Olympics athletes the stars.

"I have seen that happen at the events we've hosted leading up to this summer's spectacle," he said. "I watch as these athletes are recognized and lauded at event after event and I hear from their parents and siblings how this experience and their involvement has changed their whole trajectory. It is the most inspiring job I've ever had and I'm so grateful to have even the smallest part in helping to make that happen. You really can't

ask for anything more.”

There are about 200 million people with intellectual disabilities around the world and the mission of Special Olympics is to engage those children and adults in sporting activities to help them demonstrate courage and experience joy while changing attitudes among the rest of the population about what people with intellectual disabilities can do. The Special Olympics World Games will be the largest sports and humanitarian event anywhere in the world in 2015. It will bring 7,000 athletes, 3,000 coaches and thousands of family members, supporters and international dignitaries to Los Angeles for a nine-day event featuring 25 different sporting competitions that are expected to attract a half a million spectators.

As an undergraduate, Jones was actively involved with Theta Chi Fraternity and the Student Activities Board.

“Theta Chi Fraternity and the Student Activities Board, more than any other experience at NSU, helped to prepare me for what I do today,” he said. “SAB was the first organization that I joined and it had a tremendous impact on my future path. Aside from the fact that it helped to pay for my education through scholarships once I worked my way up to executive leadership, it introduced me to two of the people who inspired and impacted my life the most during my time there. Liz Carroll, the assistant director of Student Activities while I was a student at NSU, quickly became a mentor and my ‘mom’ away from home. I know that she held this distinguished title for many students.

“While SAB gave me the opportunities to plan events and entertainment which would ultimately steer me toward what I wanted to do in life, Liz taught me about the joy and pride that comes from putting your heart and soul into pulling together an event or activity that

really means something to others. She approached every event that we planned with a creative outlook and ‘no boundaries’ attitude that never ceased to amaze me.

“Reatha Cox also had a tremendous impact on me and continually pushed me to take on leadership positions within SAB and, ultimately, to join a fraternity, something that I never thought I would do. She often had much more confidence in my abilities than I did and I’m grateful that she always seemed to see things in me that I couldn’t see myself.”

With Opening Ceremonies set for July 25, Jones’ days are a whirlwind of meetings with functional areas and departments of the Games organizing committee, overseeing non-competition events, entertainment, educational programming, receptions and activities leading up to the Games, celebrity engagement and the logistics of dealing with tents, power and facilities, vendors and sponsors. “I now have the opportunity to utilize the skills and experience that I’ve honed over the years to help pull together a global event that shines a light on and recognizes one of the largest, but often overlooked, populations across the globe,”

Jones said. “Being a part of this Games

Organizing Committee and working with these incredible athletes will definitely go down as one of my greatest career highlights, without a doubt.”

For more information on the 2015 Special Olympics World Games, visit la2015.org. To contribute to Jones’ Support an Athlete, which will benefit two athletes attending the World Games, visit www.la2015.org/support-an-athlete, click on Find A Fundraising Page and enter Dwayne Jones name. Funds go towards defraying the cost of housing, food, accommodations, entertainment, transportation and medical expenses for athletes.



Jones posed for a photo with a Special Olympics competitor.

Spotlights



Katie Lopez (2007)

joined the KATC news team in January, reporting the "Right Now" desk on Good Morning Acadiana weekday mornings.

Born and raised in Evangeline, Lopez started her career as an intern at KPLC in Lake Charles, and before graduating from Northwestern State, was hired as a news assistant with KPLC.

Her drive and determination landed her a job in McAllen,

Texas, as a video journalist. While in McAllen, Lopez covered everything from illegal immigration, cartel crimes and drug smuggling. She also worked her way up from video journalist to Hidalgo County Bureau Chief and weekend anchor.

While she enjoyed the fast-paced life of reporting along the border, she decided it was time to come home after she and her husband welcomed a baby girl to their family in June 2013.

In her spare time, Lopez enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading and shopping.

Manny Augello (2008) was ranked among Louisiana's 10 best chefs by the Louisiana Office of Tourism. The listing, posted on LouisianaTravel.com, placed Augello among a group of chefs who are making the state a food lover's dream destination.

According to his Twitter bio Augello is an "obsessed chef & charcutier. culinary activist. representative of the new garde. madly devoted to food & culture. kitchen junkie." While executive chef at Jolie's Louisiana Bistro in Lafayette, he was invited to cook at the Farm to Table Dinner at the James Beard House in New York. Augello is now co-owner of Bread & Circus Provisions in Lafayette, specializing in charcuterie and other "playful food." As a culinary activist, he currently serves on the advisory board of Acadiana Food Circle as a representative for the Slow Food movement. In 2014, Augello was featured on The Cooking Channel's popular show "Eat the Street."

Dr. Judith Covington (1985), a professor of mathematics at Louisiana State University-Shreveport, was named the 2015 recipient of the Deborah and Franklin Tepper Haimo Award at the Joint Mathematics Meeting in San Antonio in January. The award honors college or university teachers whose have been recognized for their success, effectiveness and lasting influence in teaching beyond their own institutions. No more than three college or university professors are honored with the award each year and no other recipient has come from Louisiana. Award winners receive \$1,000 and a certificate of recognition.

Covington's students describe her as patient, accessible, dedicated, helpful and knowledgeable. She has received several large grants to develop teach preparation programs in Louisiana and founded the North Louisiana Math Teachers Circle. A member of the First Project Next class, she served on the Project Next leadership team for almost 20 years. In 2004, she was awarded the LSU-Shreveport Elmer and Barbara Simon Distinguished Teaching Professorship and in 2012 received the Champions for Mathematics Education Award from the local National Council of Teachers mathematics affiliate and the Louisiana-Mississippi MAA section's Distinguished Teaching Award.

Gail S. Stephenson, director of legal analysis and writing at Southern University Law Center, will be honored as the 2014 Distinguished Professor by the Louisiana Bar Foundation at its 29th annual Fellows Gala in New Orleans on May 1. Recognition is given to those individuals who, by reason of his or her professional activities, have distinguished themselves in their chosen profession and have brought credit and honor to the legal profession.

Stephenson has been a full-time faculty member at SULC since 2004. She also taught as an adjunct at Louisiana State University from 1997 to 2001 and at SULC from 2002 to 2004. She teaches legal analysis and writing and is the adviser for the Southern University Law Review. Her scholarship is primarily in the areas of culturally relevant teaching and Louisiana civil procedure. She was president of the Baton Rouge Bar Association in 2012 and president of the Baton Rouge Association of Women Attorneys in 1995. She has served as a member of the Editorial Board of the Louisiana Bar Journal since 1999 and is an assistant editor for the Baton Rouge Bar Association's monthly magazine *Around the Bar* since 1991. She has also been a consultant for the Louisiana Notary Public Examination since 2008 and served as a member of the Louisiana Legislative Notary Education Study Committee, HCR 45. She was the recipient of the Baton Rouge Bar Association's President's Award in 2001 and is a member of the LSU Law Center Hall of Fame. She is a member of the Association of Legal Writing Directors, the Legal Writing Institute and Scribes.

Stephenson earned her B.A. with honors from Northwestern State in 1976, where she was a member of Purple Jackets, Alpha Lambda Delta and Phi Kappa Phi. She earned her J.D. from LSU, where she was a member of the Louisiana Law Review and Order of the Coif.

2011 graduate

Darius Williams is

the new face for Ralph Lauren's Polo fall/winter campaign.

"I have worked with numerous other brands from Sperry Top-Sider, which was my first campaign job, Target, John Bartlett, Nike, Verizon, Guilted Age, Michael Kors, Macy's, Dillard's, JC Penny, Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue, Bloomingdale's, Sean John, etc." he said. "I have truly been blessed with a great opportunity to pursue and maintain a career in this industry. I want to thank you all because, without my support system, none of this would be possible."

Williams earned a degree in fine arts at Northwestern State and planned to attend graduate school until the opportunity arose to attend castings for Mercedes Benz Fashion Week. He is currently studying acting.

"It was fate that led me to Ralph Lauren. My mentor who I call the "Godfather," told me that Ralph Lauren was going to be my major modeling booking which happened to come true. Thanks to my agency and Ralph Lauren for the opportunity and believing in me."

You can follow Williams on Instagram @darius_williams11.



Alumna, 104, reflects on long life and career

In December, staff from the Office of Alumni and Development visited with Earline Hart Andrews, Northwestern State's oldest known living graduate. Alumni Columns published a profile of Andrews in 2009. Following is an updated and edited version.

"I say this in all seriousness. I don't know if I'm a novelty or a curiosity. I think I'm a curiosity," Earline Hart Andrews said, as she relayed a recent encounter with an office worker who didn't believe Andrews was being truthful about her age and required a look at her identification. At age 104, Andrews took that as quite a compliment. The long-time Tyler, Texas, resident is spry, sprightly, engaging and gracious when hosting visitors from her alma mater, Northwestern State University.

"Every time I hear Northwestern, I think 'Oh, that's what they are calling it now,'" she commented. She attended the school from 1928-1931 when it was known as Louisiana State Normal College and is the school's oldest known living graduate.

Born Oct. 28, 1910, Andrews described riding a horse to Vivian High School from the family farm just over the Texas line and falling into the habit of racing -- and outrunning -- Model Ts, for which she was reprimanded by her father. She enrolled at Normal after graduating from Vivian High and arrived in Natchitoches with seven other girls from her class, never having been away from home before. At that time, girls only left their dormitories at prescribed times and students paid a quarter to watch silent movies on Saturday evenings.

After graduating from Normal in 1931, Andrews spent 43 years as a classroom teacher and said her inspiration to travel the world came from a guest who spoke at Normal during her student days.

Like many alumni of her generation, Andrews recalls her days at Normal as a time of learning and forming close friendships with her classmates. Many were from rural areas and away from home for the first time. Because trips off-campus were limited, the students entertained themselves with social and cultural programs, athletic events and recitals.

"One of the highlights that I remember was the Lyceum programs in which the administration brought in speakers and entertainers," she said. A lecture by the American adventurer and author Richard Halliburton had a strong and lasting influence on Andrews and the paths she chose.

"He had written his 'Book of Marvels' and told about his travels. He told us about places we had only read about. I set my

goal: when I got a job and enough money, I was going to travel. I began a lifetime of travel."

Having only been to and from school and occasionally taken the train to Shreveport or Marshall, Texas, Andrews decided to visit all 48 states. After her first year of work, she took a train to New Orleans, where the train was ferried across the Mississippi River. Later, she and a friend from Normal, Nevada Self Salter [1912-2011] of Sabine Parish, took a month-long road trip in which they set out from Many and headed east along the Gulf and Atlantic coast states, touring state capital buildings and other points of interest from Mississippi to Maine. She eventually visited all 48 continental United States, Canada and Mexico and embarked on overseas travel in 1967. Her home is filled with mementos of her travels -- embroidered silks from China, painted panels from Kyoto and boxes from Russia.

"I traveled until time caught up with me. I took in a lot. On my 80th birthday, I was walking on the Great Wall of China. On my 85th I rode a camel in Cairo and walked through the ruins of Ephesus. At 89, I was going into the port at Istanbul," she said. She visited every continent except Antarctica and Australia and her interest in the world spilled into her teaching.

"When I was teaching sixth grade, my supervisor had all the teachers write a unit of work appropriate for our levels, so I did research and came up with the idea of writing a unit on landmarks around the world." The unit included aspects of social studies, spelling, English, geography and history, as the children wrote reports and made notebooks on their topics. Years later, one of Andrews' former students acknowledged her in a travel book he authored, citing her as inspiring him to explore the world.

Of her travels, Andrews has many stories and notebooks that contain her impressions of Russia, Bangkok, Singapore, Japan, Istanbul, Scandinavia and many islands, but laments that people overlook traveling in the United States.

"They take off to Europe and haven't traveled anywhere in our great country," she said.

In more recent years, Andrews haunted libraries all over the country conducting genealogy research and tracing her ancestors to the 500s. She is active in DAR, Colonial Dames and the Magna Charta society. Genealogy research, she said, stimulates the mind and her mental outlook is a very important factor in her health.

"I am still mobile, still healthy and the gray matter is still working," said Andrews,



At age 104, Earline Andrews is NSU's oldest known living graduate, having been awarded her diploma in 1931.



Nevada Self Salter and Earline Hart Andrews are pictured in front of one of the women's dormitories on Normal Hill, Sept. 28, 1930.

whose husband is deceased. She had no children, but has attentive relatives. "My mental outlook is that there is good in everything and I look for the positive side. I found one thing in accelerated years: the one word that has tided me through is acceptance. If adverse things occur, if I can't do anything about them, I think 'This is today, I live today and tomorrow I'll face it.' It took me a long time to learn the word acceptance. Every coin has two sides. It's my way of life. I still live alone and take care of my business and all my financial matters and am plagued only by poor eyesight."

Andrews' independent spirit and willingness to do things on her own helped her fulfill her dream of traveling the world. She reflects fondly on her long life and sums up her optimistic outlook with a single phrase: "Hitch your wagon to a star, keep your seat and there you are."



NSU graduates Emma and John Boozman, front row, gathered with family members in Baton Rouge Jan. 28 after her induction in the Louisiana High School Sports Hall of Fame.

Boozman inducted into LHSAA Hall of Fame, looks back

Emma Boozman made the understatement of the night as she opened her autobiographical talk to dozens of friends, supporters and sports fans at the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest History Museum.

"I have had a very interesting little life."

The Winnsboro native, an iconic figure in Natchitoches Parish all her adult life, retired at the end of the 2012-13 school year. Her remarkable girls' basketball coaching accomplishments earned her induction in the Louisiana High School Sports Hall of Fame in Baton Rouge in January. That, and her move to Alabama to be close to her only daughter and her first grandchild, provided the perfect reasons for the very special night at the museum.

So what's so fascinating about Emma Ellerman Boozman?

She grew up in the era of three-on-three girls basketball, shooting baskets in a dress in junior high school.

After joining an elite women's basketball program in the early 1970s at Northwestern State, she and her big sister Rhonda found themselves in Iowa, alongside future legend Pat Head Summitt, trying out for the USA's World University Games team.

Emma and her Louise, college teammate and running buddy Mona Davidson Martin, were the only two women

at a Dallas-based basketball clinic headlined by Bob Knight – and were scolded by the chauvinistic Indiana Hoosiers' coach, who said they "should go back to the kitchen." They laughed and went back to the clinic.

She and Martin were among the first 10 women at Northwestern, and in the state of Louisiana, to be awarded full athletic scholarships in April 1975.

A few years into her coaching career, at Fairview-Alpha High School just south of the Red River Parish line, she coached the boys' team in addition to the girls - while pregnant.

And her college sweetheart, then husband John, became an assistant coach with her in her final seasons at Natchitoches Central. They're still married, despite an infamous experience early in that husband-wife coaching relationship.

Suffice to say she covered a lot of ground in less than an hour, entertaining and entralling her audience.

Emma and Rhonda were among 11 Ellerman kids growing up in Winnsboro. She didn't lack for playmates when she stayed in her own yard.

"Call me a tomboy, because in those days if you had a ball, I was always ready to play. I was always in the yard trying to get better at whatever game we were playing," she said.

"In junior high, I was in the gym

barefooted shooting basketball every morning until the bell rang for class, then I was back at recess. We wore dresses to school back then but that didn't stop me."

In college at Northwestern in the early 1970s, the Lady Demons were one of only two women's college basketball teams in the state. "It was like club sports for women in those days. They didn't give us a lot, and we didn't expect much. We'd travel to games in station wagons with sack lunches from the cafeteria. Some of us would even drive. We'd sleep on the gym floors to save money. We never worried about it because we loved playing basketball."

She chose Northwestern to join Rhonda. At the close of her first season, the Lady Demons were invited to play in the eight-team National Women's Invitation Tournament in Amarillo, Texas, and were provided their first university bus ride. It was a

continued on page 10

Boozman continued from page 9

17-hour journey they still treasure.

Later, another unforgettable experience - their first-ever airplane trip - came when she and Rhonda were invited to Iowa to try out for the World University Games.

"We didn't have a clue how fortunate we were, and it was all due to Lou Lewis Baxter, our coach and a physical education instructor. She made it possible for us to go and have one of the great experiences of our lives up there."

The program took a quantum leap forward on April 16, 1975, when NSU provided the first 10 full athletic scholarships for women in Louisiana history.

"That was unheard of. I was in the right place at the right time, and my momma sure was glad to see me get that scholarship," she said. "Mrs. Loneta Graves got the administration to be on the cutting edge by funding those scholarships."

Soon after, graduation and a marriage in its 38th year ensued, with her first teaching and coaching job at Fairview-Alpha High School just south of the Natchitoches-Red River Parish line.

"It was a little Class C school, a community school, and I wasn't sure about it being a good move, but it was just a great experience. I'd even hunt, fish

and go frog-gigging with some of my players."

Her girls team made the state semifinals, the fabled Sweet 16 Tournament, in her second year. A couple of years later, the school's boys coach quit shortly before classes began.

"My wonderful principal, Janie Adams, asked me if I'd ever thought about coaching boys. I didn't see what the big deal was, so I said yes. And it was a great experience," she said. "I had sweet boys and we won, made it all the way to the state quarterfinals. Some of the players' families struggled with the idea of having a woman coach for a while, but from day one, those boys did all I asked and were actually easier to coach than girls. Girls are harder to get along with at that age."

Her daughter arrived that spring. So did consolidation, closing eight parish high schools and ending her boys coaching career ("I would have done it again if asked.") Boozman became coach down Highway 71 at Campti and quickly won two state championships.

Then it was a move in town to NCHS, where Martin had been a three-time state championship coach. In Boozman's 26 seasons, the Lady Chiefs made 13 state quarterfinal appearances, winning the 2010 state title and ending her career in the 2013 state championship game.

"One bounce, one shot some years, and we would have made the state tournament and who knows if we don't win it all," she said. "The last year was probably one of my best coaching jobs. Those girls were over-achievers and it was a great way to end my career working with them."

John joined her staff in the last few years, leading to the most memorable game Emma didn't coach.

"We had a game in the Lakeview Tournament on a Friday, and my dad passed away a day earlier. John said he and my other assistants could handle it.

"Six technical fouls later, and a 30-point loss, that's how they handled it. That is still a loss on my record," she said, chuckling as she looked fondly at her husband.

Reflecting on a teaching and coaching career spanning five decades, she noted something surprising about her players.

"They didn't change that much. I did. As I got older, I got a lot easier on them. The kids were all good. There was always a group that did everything you asked, and there were some who gave you trouble, and some who just required more attention to get done. But overall, the kids were all good."

So was their coach, and then some.

Reunion dates for 1995, 2005 baseball teams set

The 2015 Demon Baseball Reunion Weekend, with special recognition for the 1995 and 2005 Southland Conference champion teams, is March 27-29 as NSU plays host to rival McNeese State at Brown-Stroud Field.

All former NSU baseball players, coaches and staff members, along with supporters, are invited to participate. Assistant Athletics Director Haley Blount is coordinating the reunion, co-hosted by the NSU baseball program and the Demons Unlimited Foundation.

The big day is Saturday, March 28. Activities begin with the 6:30 p.m. Friday night series opener, followed by a gathering on the back patio at Mama's Oyster House on Front Street in Natchitoches.

On Saturday, a tailgating party begins at 11 a.m. on the hill behind the third-base dugout at Brown-Stroud Field. The 1995 and 2005 teams will be recognized on the field before starting lineups at 1:45 p.m. and the first pitch at 2 p.m..

Saturday evening, the 2005 Demons will gather at the Pioneer Pub at 812 Washington Street, next to the Louisiana

Sports Hall of Fame museum at the Front Street traffic circle. The 1995 team postgame party Saturday is being hosted by Eric Gilmore, who can be reached at thedemonbookstore@gmail.com to provide additional information.

Sunday's series finale begins at 1 p.m. at Brown-Stroud Field, now nicknamed "The Bistro" on the @NSUDemonsBsB Twitter account.

Discounted game tickets are available through the NSU ticket office at (318) 357-4268 by mentioning the 2015 Demon Baseball Reunion.

The 1995 and 2005 Demon teams have started a Facebook Group to communicate about the reunion. Blount can provide additional information at blounth@nsula.edu or through her Facebook page or calling (318) 357-4278.

That Friday is also NSU's Presidential Investiture and Command Performance, honoring new university president Dr. Jim Henderson. Information on that event is on pages 1-3 in this edition of the Alumni Columns.

Faculty, grads gather as Nursing celebrates 65th year

Louisiana's oldest state-supported baccalaureate program in nursing celebrated its 65th anniversary in December to commemorate its contribution to healthcare in the state. Northwestern State University's College of Nursing and School of Allied Health enrolled its first class in 1949 and in the decades since has grown to offer associate, bachelor's and master's degrees. Last semester the program enrolled its first class in the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program. A reception featured a slide show of former faculty and facilities, recollections of the program's history and a vision for future growth and development.

"We at NSU know the nursing program is an area of excellence. We are the absolute best," said Dr. Randall J. Webb. "We are always looking for third party validation. U.S. News and World Report ranked our graduate nursing program in the top 100 in the country. That's third party validation."

"The hospitals want us. The healthcare centers want us. It's a history to be proud of."

—Dr. Dana Clawson

Healthcare agencies in Caddo and Bossier parishes estimate that 75-80 percent of the RN workforce are graduates of one or more of NSU's nursing programs.

"Our faculty, staff and students have created a citadel of excellence in nursing and allied health," Webb said. "Anytime I am in a healthcare facility, the first thing I ask is 'Are you a Northwestern State graduate?'"

"When you ask people what they know about Northwestern, 90 percent of the people talk about the nursing program," said NSU President Dr. James Henderson. "According to statistics 5,000 members of the healthcare community in Shreveport/Bossier contribute a quarter billion dollars to this economy. Nursing goes so much further. It's a noble profession that adds richness and quality of life."



Leroy Gillan (1955), Virginia Lynch (1954) and Marcia Rozeman (1954) were among Northwestern State University's first graduates in the baccalaureate nursing program. Gillan was one of about three male students enrolled at the time.



Maxine Johnson, director of planning, grants and development and a 1962 graduate of Northwestern State's nursing program, gave a history of the nursing school and how it grew over the years. In the background are Johnson's 1962 classmates Ann Dickson Caskey Ryals and Martha Burton, Dr. Dana Clawson, dean of the CONSAH, and Heather and Steven Piwonka.

Headquartered in Shreveport with campuses in Alexandria and Leesville, Northwestern State's nursing program was developed in the 1940s when the Shreveport healthcare community realized the need for a collegiate-based nursing program. Five hospitals agreed to phase out their diploma programs opening the door for Northwestern State to create their Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. As nursing degree offerings expanded, NSU implemented the Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Technology, now the Radiologic Sciences degree program.

"We are strong and going forward all the time."

—Maxine Johnson

"There are currently 600 face to face students at the Line Avenue facility and 400 who are Internet students who come to the facility," said Maxine Johnson, director of planning, grants and development, a 1962 graduate who has a 50-year association with the program and is the College's unofficial historian. "From the very beginning this program has been three-pronged. We wanted to offer a diploma for general practitioner nursing, a two-year RN option to get a bachelor's degree and the first RN to BSN program."

NSU has also worked with community colleges to create degree programs that allow a seamless transition from an associate degree to a baccalaureate degree.

Johnson introduced two graduates from the first class of 1954, Marcia Rozeman and Virginia Lynch.

"Nursing is a noble profession that will never die because we are always needed," Rozeman said.

Reflecting on the history of the program, Dr. Dana Clawson, dean of the CONSAH, said the best is yet to come.

"The hospitals want us. The healthcare centers want us. It's a history to be proud of," Clawson said.

"We are strong and going forward all the time," Johnson said.

For information on Northwestern State's School of Nursing and Allied Health, visit nursing.nsula.edu.



Willis-Knighton Health System will provide scholarships for Northwestern State University students completing clinical courses in undergraduate nursing and radiologic sciences who are committed to work in the Shreveport-Bossier area following graduation. From left are Dr. Chris Maggio, assistant vice president of External Affairs for University Advancement; Maxine Johnson, College of Nursing; Dr. James K. Elrod, Willis-Knighton CEO; Dr. Dana Clawson, dean of NSU's College of Nursing and School of Allied Health, and Dr. Randall J. Webb.

Willis-Knighton funds CONSAH scholarships

Willis-Knighton Health System has initiated an Endowed Scholarship and Nursing and Allied Health Fund, with \$30,000 each to benefit Northwestern State University's programs in nursing and allied health. Willis-Knighton will provide \$30,000 per year for eight pre-licensure undergraduate nursing and two pre-licensure undergraduate radiologic science students on the Shreveport campus. Each year \$10,000 will be awarded (10 scholarships of \$1,000 each) and \$20,000 will be endowed until such time that interest accrues to increase the number of scholarships available each year.

Students must have successfully completed one semester of clinical courses within the undergraduate nursing or radiologic science curriculum at Northwestern State University and be committed to work in the Shreveport-Bossier area following graduation.

"We at Willis-Knighton understand the importance of a well-educated workforce to provide for the healthcare needs of our community, and we value the educational opportunities for nursing and allied health offered by Northwestern State University," said Dr. James K. Elrod, Willis-Knighton

CEO, the nation's longest-tenured hospital administrator. "By endowing these scholarships through our tithe-the-bottom-line philosophy of philanthropy, we support not only the university but also the students who will become the healthcare professionals of the future."

"Willis-Knighton Health System is largely known for being a quality healthcare delivery system in northwest Louisiana. Willis-Knighton and Dr. Elrod's ongoing support of education indicates they are also dedicated to advancing healthcare education in area."

—Dr. Dana Clawson, dean of Northwestern State's College of Nursing and School of Allied Health.

Northwestern State's College of Nursing and School of Allied Health (CONSAH) has enjoyed a long and productive relationship with Willis-Knighton. Endowed professorships established at NSU by Willis-Knighton Health System are the James K. Elrod

Professorship, the Robert Huie Endowed Professorship, the Ray P. Oden, Jr. Endowed Professorship, the J. Dudley Talbot, M.D. Endowed Professorship, the Carolyn Yvonne Romine Endowed Professorship, the Pauline Uli Zysek Endowed Professorship, the Opal Wimberly Endowed Professorship and the Jewel Gandy Endowed Professorship. Two additional are pending matching funding, the Deborah D. Olds Endowed Professorship and the Joyce Marie Hooper Endowed Professorship. These endowed professorships are awarded to College of Nursing and Allied Health faculty each year to support scholarly works in the areas of research, teaching, and/or public service to enhance the quality of higher education and promote economic development in Louisiana.

The CONSAH utilizes Willis-Knighton Health System's recently opened state of the art Innovation Center to provide clinical experiences for students in a simulated patient care environment. The available high fidelity simulators available at the Innovation Center provide a virtual hospital environment and offer a vast array of clinical learning experiences in a safe practice environment. Also available are many

continued on page 14

RoyOMartin partnership supports workforce needs

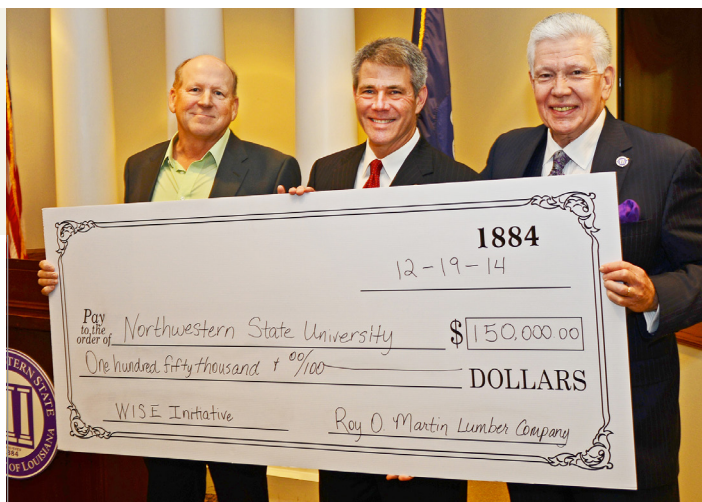
RoyOMartin presented a donation of \$150,000 to the Northwestern State University Foundation to support initiatives that align university degree programs with regional workforce needs.

The partnership is one of NSU's priorities in implementing the WISE (Workforce and Innovation for a Stronger Economy) plan in which funding is targeted to develop professionals in fields in which Louisiana has a shortage. Schools must find outside money to cover at least 20 percent of the program's costs before they get access to the state's WISE fund, which is structured to align higher education programming with Louisiana's job market. NSU hopes to increase its number of students in the high-demand areas of accounting, business, computer information systems and engineering technology.

"We are proud supporters of NSU and its educational impact on the community," said Roy O. Martin III, president and chief financial officer. "We believe this investment assists in providing necessary resources to make curriculum enhancements that support long-term workforce demands. This commitment, and our challenge to other businesses to participate, will strategically posture NSU in ensuring a highly educated and productive central Louisiana workforce for years to come."

RoyOMartin is one of the partner organizations that works with Northwestern State to assist with program development, fund raising and workforce needs. Industry partners develop internships, job opportunities, hands-on experience and projects for students that support business, industry and economic development. RoyOMartin has supported NSU in the past through the creation of the Roy O. Martin Endowed Professorship in Computer Information Systems. The company also provides scholarships to employees and their dependents to attend Northwestern State.

"It is critical that we seek external funding for programs that align with today's job market," said Dr. Randall J. Webb.



RoyOMartin LLC presented a donation to the Northwestern State University Foundation to support development of programs in business, accounting, computer information systems and engineering technology. From left are RoyOMartin Chief Information Officer Jesse Bolton, a 1980 graduate of Northwestern State; Company President and CFO Roy O. Martin III and Dr. Randall J. Webb.

"This investment from RoyOMartin and other industry partners enables us to attract both students and faculty for disciplines that will meet the demands for Louisiana's growing economy."

RoyOMartin is the brand name of RoyOMartin, L.L.C., a group of family-owned, professionally managed forest-products and forestland-management companies based in Alexandria. Founded in 1923 as Roy O. Martin Lumber Co., the company now operates two oriented strand board (OSB) and plywood manufacturing facilities in Central Louisiana, as well as a lumber-and-timbers mill in Alabama. RoyOMartin also owns 570,000 acres of timberland in Louisiana, making it one of the largest private landowners in the South. RoyOMartin's family-owned forestlands have been certified as well-managed according to the principles and criteria of the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®), an independent, non-profit conservation organization. All of RoyOMartin's wood products are available FSC® certified. For more information, visit royomartin.com.

CONSAH scholarships continued from page 13

patient scenarios that students, otherwise, would never experience in the actual clinical setting. Healthcare agencies in Caddo and Bossier parishes estimate that 75-80 percent of the RN workforce are graduates of one or more of NSU's nursing programs. According to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing's Annual report the nearly 5,000 RNs who are employed in Caddo and Bossier parishes have an economic impact of about \$223.8 million.

"NSU's College of Nursing is both humbled and honored that Willis-Knighton and Dr. Elrod are dedicated to supporting students by the establishment of this endowed

student scholarship in addition to the numerous endowed professorships that have been established for the college of nursing and school of allied health," Clawson said. "The NSU College of Nursing is blessed to partner with Willis-Knighton in producing quality nursing and allied health graduates to meet the current and future healthcare needs of Louisiana citizens."

For more information on Northwestern State's College of Nursing and School of Allied Health and its degree programs, visit nursing.nsula.edu.

Criminal Justice Scholarship honors retiring judges



The Natchitoches Bar Association honored retired Judges Dee Ann Hawthorne and Rick Harrington by establishing a scholarship in their honor to benefit Northwestern State University students pursuing careers in criminal justice. The announcement was made during a retirement ceremony attended by colleagues, friends and family of the two, who served Louisiana's 10th Judicial District since 2004 and 1999, respectively. From left are Ronald Corkern, Lola Dunahoe, president of the NSU Foundation; Natchitoches Bar Association President Richard deVargas, Hawthorne, Harrington, Edwin Dunahoe and Vanner Erikson, associate director of Alumni Affairs.

Guess Who



This social work major pictured in the 1990 Potpourri helped distribute information during Alcohol Awareness Week sponsored by the Peer Leaders Coalition. Can you name her? The first five correct answers will receive a prize. If you know the answer, call the NSU Press Publications Office at (318) 357-4553 or e-mail jacksonl@nsula.edu.

The member of the Student Activities Board who made friends with Mr. Monk, a 32-year-old cinnamon ringtail monkey, during 2004's SABari was Brittany Burton Spivey. Those who guessed correctly were:

Wilma Ortigo Reich (1976), Haughton
Paige Barbo (2011) Bossier City
Jennifer Adams Allen (2004), Benton
Dallis Miller (2010) Haughton
Kayla Pitcher (2009), Nashville, Tennessee

Ali Feaster Smith (2010)
Steven Vrbka (2006), Bossier City
Adam Jonson (2007, 2010) Natchitoches
Laura Mayeaux (2007) Many
Virginia Dixon Monceret New Roads
Casey Matthews Payn (2009), Mansfield
Candice Ratliff (2008)
Sheila Gentry (2002, 2004), Natchitoches
Aubrey Landry (2007), Baton Rouge
Cheryl Cooley-Maldanis (2005), Rockwall, Texas
Christy Fulco Jones (2008), Shreveport
Bill Culbert (1980), Danville, Virginia
LaToya J. Burrell (2005), Minneapolis, Minnesota
Beth Tallant
Kyndal Harrell (2009), Natchitoches
Glinda Parker (1982) Bossier City

Looking Back



In April 1975, Northwestern State became the first state university to offer full athletic scholarships for women. Ten scholarships were awarded, eight to current student-athletes, and two to incoming high school seniors. Pictured from left are Diane Pittman McCain, Pat Nolen (Pierson), Emma Ellerman (Boozman), Louise "Do" Bonin and Sherrill Landry. Other Lady Demons receiving scholarships but not pictured were Terri McDonnell, Inez Brew, Mona Davidson (Martin), Janie Wallace and Margaret Langford. The high school seniors were Lisa Brewer and Tammy Primeaux.



In Memory

1940 – Martha Effie Hall Burt, Jan. 20, 2015, Baton Rouge

1941 – Mary Evelyn Parker, Jan. 17, 2015, Baton Rouge

1949 – Jack Wise, Nov. 27, 2014, Thibodaux

1953 – Benny Lynn Sanders, Dec. 12, 2014, Saline

1953 – Dorothy Louise Sudbury, Many

1958 – Dr. Tommy Johnson, Dec. 26, 2014, Natchitoches

1958 – Wanda Felder Sanderson, Jan. 25, 2015, Baton Rouge

1964 – James Corwyn Aldredge Sr., Jan. 7, 2015, Montgomery

1966 – Samuel Reed Maddox Jr., Dec. 22, 2011, Lake Charles

1968, 1973, 1989 – Dr. Litton Bryan Nugent, Nov. 26, 2014, Natchitoches

1971 – Walt Taylor, Dec. 6, 2014, Coushatta

1971 – Robert Walker, Dec. 13, 2014, Natchitoches

1996 – Penny Bolton, Dec. 4, 2014, Natchitoches

2008 – Tyler Cheramie, Jan. 28, 2014, Cut-Off



DR. JIM HENDERSON
President, Northwestern State University

Hear Dr. Henderson's message to Alumni by clicking the video button.

NSU Alumni Survey

As Northwestern State alumni, we all play an important role in promoting the university's brand, reaching prospective students, supporting specific programs and showing pride in our student experience. There are many exciting opportunities for alumni engagement in the works and we would like your input.

Please take a few minutes to complete the following survey and sent it to

Northwestern State University
Office of Alumni Affairs
535 University Parkway
Natchitoches, LA 71497

If you prefer, you may also complete the survey online by visiting

surveymonkey.com/s/NSU_Alumni

Thank you again for your support.

NSU Alumni Survey

1. What is your age?

- ☐ 18 to 24
- ☐ 25 to 34
- ☐ 35 to 44
- ☐ 45 to 54
- ☐ 55 to 64
- ☐ 65 to 74
- ☐ 75 or older

2. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed? If currently enrolled, highest degree received.

- ☐ Some college credit, no degree
- ☐ Associate degree
- ☐ Bachelor's degree
- ☐ Master's degree
- ☐ Professional degree
- ☐ Doctorate degree

3. What impact has Northwestern State had on you and your career?

- ☐ Unimportant
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Moderately Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ N/A

4. As the oldest university in the University of Louisiana System, Northwestern State is steeped in tradition. What elements of our history are most meaningful to you?

5. How important is a rich tradition to potential students?

- ☐ Unimportant
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Moderately Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ N/A

6. Northwestern State has long been a leader in the use of technology to deliver instruction. When you think about the characteristics of an innovative 21st Century university, what attributes come to mind?

7. How important will effective use of Internet programs be for the modern university?

- ☐ Unimportant
- ☐ Of Little Importance
- ☐ Moderately Important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very Important
- ☐ N/A

8. Since 2008-09, the state contribution to Northwestern State's total revenues has declined from 70 percent to 30 percent. In order to thrive in this new era, universities must adopt effective market orientations and strategies. What are the characteristics of a market responsive institution?

9. Rate your overall sentiments about Northwestern State

- ☐ Negative
- ☐ Somewhat Negative
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Somewhat Positive
- ☐ Positive

10. What do you like most about Northwestern State?

11. What do you consider Northwestern State's biggest weakness or challenge?

12. I am proud to have attended NSU.

- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Somewhat agree
- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ N/A

13. Which of the following volunteer activities would you like to get involved with as an additional way of giving back to your alma mater? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Participate in on-campus events with students interested in your field
- ☐ Identify and post employment opportunities and internships to students and alumni
- ☐ Identify employers in my region to participate in outreach activities (e.g., site visits, mock interviews, recruiting visits, and on-campus and regional career fairs)
- ☐ Host a visit (e.g., tours, discussion panel) to offer students opportunities to visit and connect with local organizations and alumni
- ☐ Provide graduate/professional school advice to students and alumni
- ☐ Participate in an interview to be used in a Career Services podcast or video
- ☐ Serve as a career mentor to a current student
- ☐ Serve as a fund raising ambassador
- ☐ Represent NSU at a college fair and/or a local high school
- ☐ Meet with prospective students and parents in my region (e.g., recruiting receptions)
- ☐ None, I choose to give back in other ways
- ☐ None, I am not interested at this time
- ☐ Other (please specify)

14. How could Northwestern State better provide networking opportunities and other resources to benefit its alumni? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Job placement programs
- ☐ Job fairs for students and alumni
- ☐ Distribution of employment opportunities for alumni
- ☐ Promote specific programs with potential employers
- ☐ Match alumni to careers in business and industry
- ☐ Other (please specify)

NSU Alumni After Hours Tour

COME JOIN US!

February 13	San Antonio	Emily Morgan Hotel	6-8 p.m.
March 12	Lafayette	Blue Dog Café	6-8 p.m.
March 18	New Orleans	Drago's in Metairie	6-8 p.m.
March 19	Baton Rouge	Juban's	6-8 p.m.
April 11	Houston	Ragin' Cajun on Westheimer	12-2 p.m.
April 11	Austin	County Line on the Lake	6-8 p.m.
April 16	Alexandria	Tunk's Cypress Inn	6-8 p.m.
April 23	Shreveport	Savoie's – The Catering Place	6-8 p.m.
April 30	Dallas	Home of Jill Morrison	6-8 p.m.
May 16	Washington D.C.	LLC Crawfish Boil	12-5 p.m.
April 18	Atlanta	Boudreaux's in Duluth	11a.m. to 2 p.m.



DEMONS



Registration & detailed information available at northwesternalumni.com